

THIS WEEK

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Governor Schwarzenegger, CDCR, Break Ground on Two County AB 900 Projects

Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger joined CDCR and local San Bernardino County officials on Dec. 15 to celebrate the groundbreaking of the first jail construction project as a result of AB 900.

Increasing jail bed capacity for San Bernardino County, the project will provide the Adelanto Detention Center under the San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department with a maximum-security, 1,368 bed expansion.

The project will be funded through a combination of lease-revenue bonds made available by AB 900 and county funds.

On Friday, CDCR Secretary Matthew Cate and Calaveras County officials held a groundbreaking ceremony for a major jail expansion that will quadruple the county's jail capacity.

The Corrections Standard Authority (CSA) conditionally awarded \$26,387,591 to Calaveras County to build the Calaveras County Adult Detention Facility, which



Secretary Cate, Governor Schwarzenegger (c) break ground.

will provide 160 new beds. Originally built in 1963, the jail in Calaveras County has 65 beds. With limited space and a court ordered population cap, the county was forced to release offenders before they had completed their full sentences.

AB 900, also known as the Public Safety and Offender Rehabilitation Services Act of 2007, provides \$7.7 billion to add up to 53,000 prison and jail beds. The legislation provides funding for treatment and

rehabilitation beds and to reduce prison overcrowding. Conditional funding for 11 counties, including Calaveras, has been awarded through the Corrections Standards Authority for jail bed expansions.

The events marked the first two local jail construction projects and added to three AB 900 construction project launched this year. In November, CDCR and California Prison Health Care Services broke ground on a 1,722-bed inmate medical facility southeast of Stockton.

In June, CDCR broke ground on a 64-bed intermediate-care mental health facility at California Medical Facility in Vacaville and a 45-bed acute/intermediate-care mental health facility for female inmates at California Institution for Women in Chino.

For more information, visit the CDCR website at http://www.cdcr.ca.gov/CSA/CFC/AB900_Program.html

DAPO Makes Progress in Three Areas Called for in Five Year Roadmap of Reform

New hires for entry-level parole positions, a planned firearms upgrade, and a review of the effectiveness of the legacy Parole Outpatient Clinic Program are some recent accomplishments of the Division of Adult Parole Operations.

DAPO Director Robert Ambroselli continues to focus division resources on reform and has pledged transparency while the parole division makes inroads on its Five-Year Roadmap.

In an ongoing effort to fill parole agent positions, the Parole Agent I exam was administered on October 16 with more than 4,000 potential candidates submitting applications during the one-day "file in person" recruitment effort. Results are expected to be released sometime this month.

To accommodate anticipated new hires, a Basic Parole Agent Academy will begin

January 3, 2011, for 80 parole agent cadets.

Part of the fiveyear plan calls for reducing caseload ratios for CDCR parole agents. The recruitment of additional line-level parole agents is necessary

to begin that caseload management change.

In another development, the parole division will replace its Smith and Wesson 9 mm firearms with newer, superior Smith and Wesson M&P .40-caliber handguns.

Finally, change may be coming to



Parole agents with lower caseloads have more time to visit parolees and check their status.

legacy Parole Outpatient Clinic (POC) services, which serve nearly 22,000 parolees. A task force has been created to develop implement parolee mental health deliverv system focused on national trends, forensic science and evidence-based practices. The group was formed to ensure

the needs and risks related to the mentally ill parolee population are identified in DAPO's continuing effort to keep our communities safe.

For more information on the Five Year Roadmap, visit http://www.cdcr.ca.gov/Parole/road_map/index.html